

THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST

ISSUED BY THE
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

25 OCTOBER 1962
~~TOP SECRET~~

1. **Situation in
Cuba**

a. **Photography** [redacted] revealed
no new missile sites, and no additional
missiles, missile transportation or
erectors.

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g. The standdown of Cuban tactical aircraft continues in effect and all naval [redacted]

[redacted] Reports out of Havana, however, are that things are relatively quiet and there is none of the confusion that accompanied the mobilization in April 1961.

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[redacted] Cuban domestic reporting of the President's speech omits all reference to offensive missile bases in Cuba "which was the direct reason for the action taken." Cuban media take the line set by Castro in his speech, denying there are any offensive weapons in Cuba and never using the word missile.

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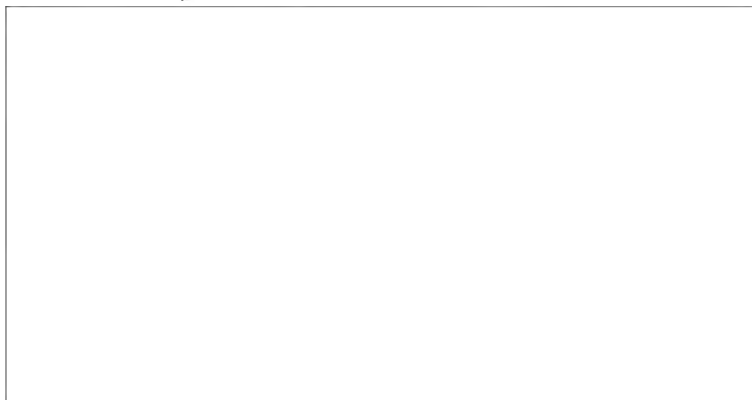
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2. Shipping

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**3. Bloc
Reactions**

a. We have noted no significant movement or deployment in any of the Bloc military forces.



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c. The naval auxiliary Terek, now under surveillance by a US ship, appears to be backing and filling northwest of the Azores. It may intend to make another submarine rendezvous.

(Cont'd)

d. Soviet and other bloc media are making much of Khrushchev's statement favoring a top-level meeting but have not elaborated on the remark. There has been no mention of the diversion of Soviet shipping.

e. Gromyko's remarks on the German situation--the first direct commentary on the problem by a high Soviet official since the President's address on Cuba--were purposely vague and contained no hint of retaliatory measures which might be taken against us in Berlin.

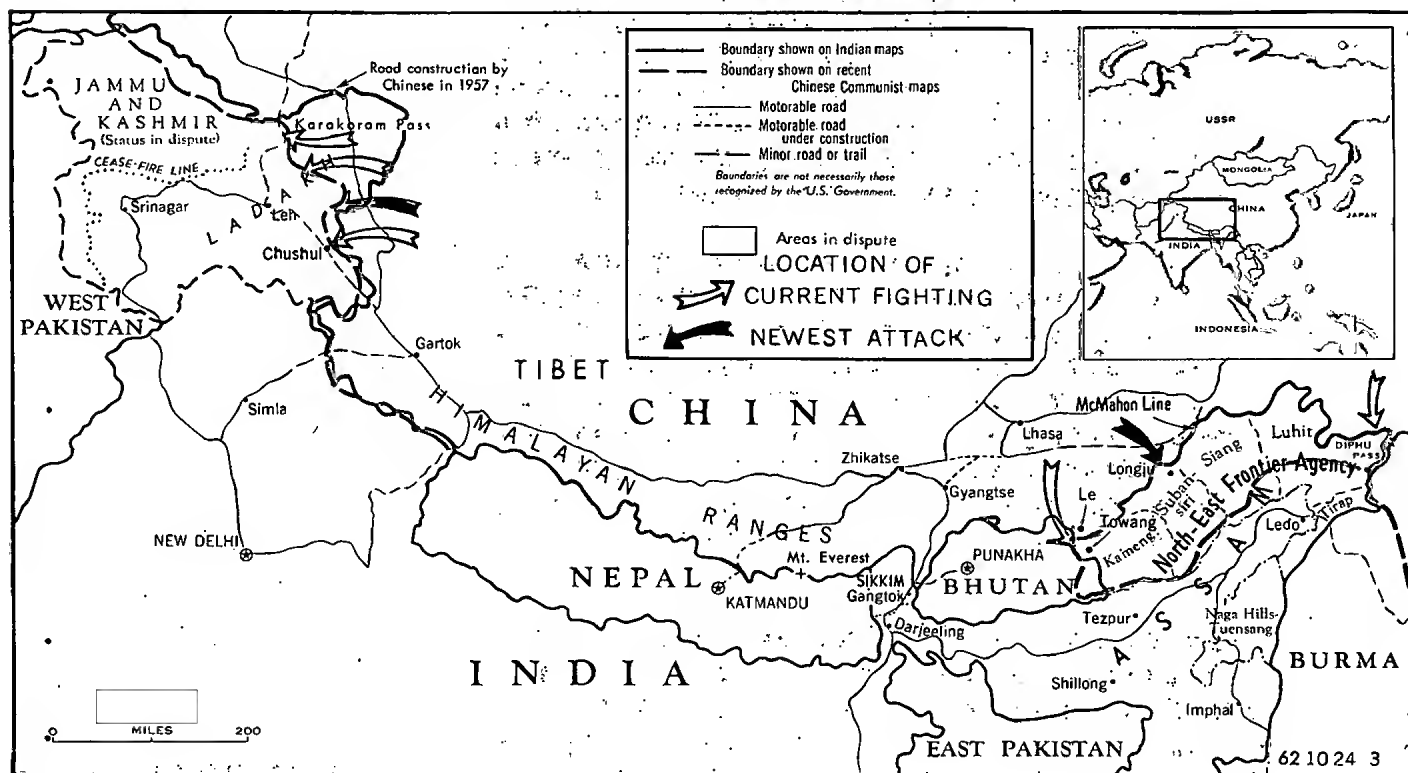
4. Non-bloc
reaction

a. Official and unofficial expression of support or understanding for the US position on Cuba have reached an impressive volume from such diverse quarters as Switzerland, India and Sudan.

b. Demonstrations against US establishments overseas have so far not been of unmanageable size or force.

c. So far there has been no reaction to the President's reply to U Thant. Neutral representatives at the UN will be concerting again this morning following consultations last night with their governments.

COMMUNIST CHINA - INDIA BORDER AREA



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5. USSR

The Soviets put what looked like a Mars probe into parking orbit yesterday [redacted]
[redacted]

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6. India-China

a. The Chinese continue to attack and have overrun several more posts in both sectors. New Delhi says they are now within five miles of an important Indian base (Towang) in the northeast sector.

b. The offensive seems to have taken much of the starch out of the Indians. Foreign Secretary Desai told Ambassador Galbraith that India hopes to stabilize the front on ridges further south. From there, they plan to harass the Chinese during the winter and reclaim lost ground "in the months and years ahead."

c. Desai says India will need arms from us to do this and will be approaching us on the matter in the next few days. He says India does not expect much from the Soviets: "They have become cautious about Chinese feelings." Even Menon, he says, is unhappy about Soviet aid prospects.

(Cont'd)

d. The baffled Soviet people learned of the dispute for the first time this morning when Pravda published a Soviet call for both sides to settle the affair peacefully.

e. Several neutral states have offered good offices, but New Delhi is refusing to negotiate under military pressure. The Indians have rejected Peiping's proposal for talks until the Chinese first pull back to where they started from in early September.

7. East Germany-Berlin

a. After a lull of several weeks, the East Germans have resumed security construction work along the Helmstedt Autobahn and around West Berlin's borders.

b. Large crews are once again felling trees, cleaning brush, strengthening bunkers and stringing barbed wire fences. They may be putting a third barbed wire fence around the entire West Berlin perimeter.

c. Along the East-West German border, too, fence-building and mine-laying is again being reported.

d. This all began again about a week ago, so it is not directly in response to the crisis over Cuba.

8. South Vietnam

a. South Vietnamese units have been alerted to the possibility that the Viet Cong may mount attacks on supply depots and main airfields this Friday, South Vietnam's national holiday. [redacted]

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b. As often happens before a holiday, we have been getting a number of reports that the Viet Cong plan to step up terrorism for the occasion. In the past, such reports have not proved out too well.

c. This time, however, a concerted series of attacks would give a big boost to the Viet Cong campaign which in recent months have been confined to routine though widespread guerrilla actions.

9. Congo

a. Adoula's government is again appealing to us for military assistance, arguing that unless bold steps are taken immediately to resolve the Katangan problem, Adoula will be overthrown by parliament when it reconvenes early next month.

b. Adoula will postpone opening of parliament if he thinks it will oust him, but he will continue to use this argument and the "we will have to look elsewhere" refrain to press us for aid. [redacted]

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NOTES

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- A. USSR Looking over the rehearsal for the October anniversary military parade (on 7 November), [redacted] what they suspect will prove to be a new, larger coastal defense cruise missile. Its size, 50 to 55 feet long, is nearly twice that of known Soviet coastal defense missiles.
- B. Indonesia With West New Guinea settled, Sukarno has opened a press campaign making all sorts of charges against the Portuguese in Timor.
- C. Communist China The Chinese have contracted for another million tons of wheat from France, bringing total purchases for the year to 6.3 million tons. This is roughly the same as last year.